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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/504,965	02/16/2000	Xiaoan Hou	5244-0107-2	6712

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ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314

EXAMINER
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POKRZYWA, JOSEPH R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2625

DATE MAILED: 06/06/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	09/504,965	HOU ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Joseph R. Pokrzywa	2625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 March 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                        | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)    | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____  |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114***

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 3/31/06 has been entered.

### ***Response to Amendment***

2. Applicant's amendment received on 1/4/06 has been entered and made of record. Currently, **claims 1-22** are pending.

### ***Response to Arguments***

3. Applicant's arguments filed 1/4/06 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

4. Upon review of the reference of Geshwind (WIPO Publication Number WO91/01606), which was cited in the Office action dated 10/4/05 as anticipating independent claims 1, 8, 13, and 18, the examiner notes that Geshwind can still anticipate the claims, as currently amended.

5. In response to applicant's arguments on pages 8 and 9, regarding the newly added limitations found in each of the independent claims requiring "the remote client is not a facsimile machine", the examiner notes that the reference of Geshwind still teaches these features. As read

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on page 12-14, 19 and 20, Geshwind teaches that the remote client can be a computer, which is not a facsimile machine. Further, in response to applicant's arguments on page 9, stating that Geshwind does not teach of a system having three machines, as required in claim 1, which are a network fax machine, a destination fax machine, and a remote client. In the above noted sections, Geshwind describes a user on a computer accessing a Public FAX Station or Public FAX Central from a computer, whereby a computerized cover sheet is forwarded to the user, which can be filled out electronically. Then the user of the computer can send a fax using the cover sheet to the Public FAX Station or Public FAX Central, where it will subsequently be forwarded to a destination fax system, as further read on pages 17 and 18. Thus, Geshwind can be interpreted as teaching of having three devices, as described in claim 1.

6. Therefore, the rejection of newly amended **claims 1, 8, 13, and 18**, which were previously cited in the Office action dated 10/4/05 under 35 U.S.C.102(b) as being anticipated by Geshwind, are maintained and repeated in this Office action.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

7. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

8. **Claims 1, 3-8, 10-13, 15-18, and 20-22** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Geshwind (WIPO Publication Number WO 91/01606, cited in the Office action dated 10/4/05).

Regarding **claim 1**, Geshwind discloses a network fax machine for faxing files received from a remote client (see Fig. 2), comprising a server unit (being the Public Fax Central in the

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Public Fax Station Network, as read in pages 18-20) configured to send a fax document form (see Fig. 1) to a remote client over a network (page 9, paragraph 3-page10, paragraph 1, and page 12, paragraph 2, and page 19, paragraph 3-page 20, paragraph 4) and configured to receive fax information entered on the fax document form from the remote client (page 9, paragraph 3-page10, paragraph 1), the fax information including (1) an identifier identifying a destination fax machine (see Fig. 1, and page 9, paragraph 3-page10, paragraph 1) and (2) a file to be faxed to the destination fax machine (page 9, paragraph 3), and a fax control unit configured to use the identifier to connect the network fax machine to the destination fax machine and configured to send the file to the destination fax machine by facsimile communication (page 9, paragraph 3-page10, paragraph 1), wherein the destination fax machine is located remotely from the remote client (page 10, paragraph 1) and the remote client is not a facsimile machine (page 12, paragraph 2, and page 19, paragraph 5-page 20, paragraph 1).

Regarding **claim 3**, Geshwind discloses the fax machine discussed above in claim 1, and further teaches of a network adapter, the network adapter including the server unit (page 1, paragraph 2-page 2, paragraph 5, and page 9, paragraph 3).

Regarding **claim 4**, Geshwind discloses the fax machine discussed above in claim 3, and further teaches that the network adapter comprises a network interface card (page 1, paragraph 2-page 2, paragraph 5, and page 9, paragraph 3).

Regarding **claim 5**, Geshwind discloses the fax machine discussed above in claim 1, and further teaches that the fax control unit is configured to connect to a public switched telephone network (page 19, paragraphs 1-5) and is configured to send the file to the destination fax

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machine via the public switched telephone network (page 9, paragraph 3-page10, paragraph 1, and page 19, paragraphs 1-5).

Regarding **claim 6**, Geshwind discloses the fax machine discussed above in claim 1, and further teaches of a common gateway interface configured to read and parse the fax information received by the server unit (page 9, paragraph 3-page10, paragraph 1).

Regarding **claim 7**, Geshwind discloses the fax machine discussed above in claim 6, and further teaches of a fax job manager configured to convert the file to be faxed into a facsimile format (page 21, paragraphs 2-paragraph 4).

Regarding **claim 8**, Geshwind discloses a method for faxing files received from a remote client (see Figs. 1 and 2), comprising sending a fax document form to a remote client over a network (page 9, paragraph 3, and page 12, paragraph 2), receiving, by a network fax machine, fax information entered on the fax document form from the remote client (see Fig. 1, page 9, paragraph 3-page 10, paragraph 1), the fax information including (1) an identifier identifying a destination fax machine (page 9, paragraph 3-page10, paragraph 1) and (2) a file to be faxed to the destination fax machine (page 9, paragraph 3), connecting the network fax machine to the destination fax machine using the identifier (page 9, paragraph 3-page10, paragraph 1), and sending the file to the destination fax machine by facsimile communication (page 9, paragraph 3-page10, paragraph 1), wherein the destination fax machine is located remotely from the remote client (page 10, paragraph 1) and the remote client is not a facsimile machine (page 12, paragraph 2, and page 19, paragraph 5-page 20, paragraph 1).

Regarding **claim 10**, Geshwind discloses the method discussed above in claim 8, and further teaches that the connecting step comprises connecting to a public switched telephone

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network (page 19, paragraphs 1-5) and wherein the sending step comprises sending the file to the destination fax machine via the public switched telephone network (page 9, paragraph 3-page10, paragraph 1, and page 19, paragraphs 1-5).

Regarding *claim 11*, Geshwind discloses the method discussed above in claim 8, and further teaches of reading and parsing the fax information received from the remote client (page 9, paragraph 3-page10, paragraph 1).

Regarding *claim 12*, Geshwind discloses the method discussed above in claim 11, and further teaches of converting the file to be faxed into a facsimile format (page 21, paragraphs 2-paragraph 4).

Regarding *claim 13*, Geshwind discloses a network fax machine for faxing files received from a remote client (see Figs. 1 and 2), comprising means for sending a fax document form to a remote client over a network (page 9, paragraph 3, and page 12, paragraph 2), means for receiving fax information entered on the fax document form from the remote client (see Fig. 1, page 9, paragraph 3-page 10, paragraph 1), the fax information including (1) an identifier identifying a destination fax machine (page 9, paragraph 3-page10, paragraph 1) and (2) a file to be faxed to the destination fax machine (page 9, paragraph 3), and means for connecting the network fax machine to the destination fax machine using the identifier (page 9, paragraph 3-page10, paragraph 1), and means for sending the file to the destination fax machine by facsimile communication (page 9, paragraph 3-page10, paragraph 1), wherein the destination fax machine is located remotely from the remote client (page 10, paragraph 1) and the remote client is not a facsimile machine (page 12, paragraph 2, and page 19, paragraph 5-page 20, paragraph 1).

Regarding *claim 15*, Geshwind discloses the fax machine discussed above in claim 13, and further teaches that the means for connecting comprises means for connecting to a public switched telephone network (page 19, paragraphs 1-5) and wherein the means for sending comprises means for sending the file to the destination fax machine via the public switched telephone network (page 9, paragraph 3-page10, paragraph 1, and page 19, paragraphs 1-5).

Regarding *claim 16*, Geshwind discloses the fax machine discussed above in claim 13, and further teaches of means for reading and parsing the fax information received by the means for receiving (page 9, paragraph 3-page10, paragraph 1).

Regarding *claim 17*, Geshwind discloses the fax machine discussed above in claim 16, and further teaches of means for converting the file to be faxed into a facsimile format (page 21, paragraphs 2-paragraph 4).

Regarding *claim 18*, Geshwind discloses a computer readable medium containing program instructions for execution on a computer system (page 23, paragraph 3), which when executed by a network fax machine, cause the network fax machine to perform method steps for faxing files received from a remote client (see Fig. 2), comprising sending a fax document form to a remote client over a network (page 9, paragraph 3, and page 12, paragraph 2), receiving fax information entered on the fax document form from the remote client (see Fig. 1, page 9, paragraph 3-page 10, paragraph 1), the fax information including (1) an identifier identifying a destination fax machine (page 9, paragraph 3-page10, paragraph 1) and (2) a file to be faxed to the destination fax machine (page 9, paragraph 3), connecting the network fax machine to the destination fax machine using the identifier (page 9, paragraph 3-page10, paragraph 1), and sending the file to the destination fax machine by facsimile communication (page 9, paragraph 3-



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page10, paragraph 1), wherein the destination fax machine is located remotely from the remote client (page 10, paragraph 1) and the remote client is not a facsimile machine (page 12, paragraph 2, and page 19, paragraph 5-page 20, paragraph 1)..

Regarding **claim 20**, Geshwind discloses the medium discussed above in claim 18, and further teaches that the step of connecting comprises connecting to a public switched telephone network (page 19, paragraphs 1-5) and wherein the step of sending comprises sending the file to the destination fax machine via the public switched telephone network (page 9, paragraph 3-page10, paragraph 1, and page 19, paragraphs 1-5).

Regarding **claim 21**, Geshwind discloses the medium discussed above in claim 18, and further teaches of instructions to perform the step of reading and parsing the fax information received from the remote client (page 9, paragraph 3-page10, paragraph 1).

Regarding **claim 22**, Geshwind discloses the medium discussed above in claim 21, and further teaches of instructions to perform the step of converting the file to be faxed into a facsimile format (page 21, paragraphs 2-paragraph 4).

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

9. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

10. **Claims 2, 9, 14, and 19** rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Geshwind (WIPO Publication Number WO 91/01606, cited in the Office action dated 10/4/05) in view of Wolff (U.S. Patent Number 5,848,413, cited in the Office action dated 10/4/05).

Regarding *claims 2, 9, 14, and 19*, Geshwind discloses the fax machines, method, and medium discussed above in claims 1, 13, 8, and 18, respectively, but fails to expressly disclose if the server unit comprises a hypertext transfer protocol server configured to serve a hypertext markup language document to the remote client, with the hypertext markup language document including the fax document form.

Wolff discloses a network fax machine for faxing files received from a remote client (see Figs. 1 and 2), comprising a server unit (gateway 102) configured to send a fax document form to a remote client over a network (fax machine 101 via phone lines 104, see step 202 in Fig. 2, column 4, lines 18-42) and configured to receive fax information entered on the fax document form from the remote client (see Fig. 2), the fax information including an identifier corresponding to a destination fax machine (column 7, lines 29-62) and a file to be faxed to the destination fax machine (column 4, line 55-column 5, line 34), and a fax control unit configured to use the identifier to connect the network fax machine to the destination fax machine and configured to send the file to the destination fax machine by facsimile communication (column 5, lines 35-60, and column 6, line 38-column 8, line 8).

Further, Wolff teaches that the server unit comprises a hypertext transfer protocol server configured to serve a hypertext markup language document to the remote client, with the hypertext markup language document including the fax document form (column 8, line 32-column 9, line 27).

Geshwind & Wolff are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor, being systems that transmit data via facsimile machines. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to the hypertext markup language

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teachings of Wolff within the system of Geshwind. The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been that Geshwind's system would become updated with modern capabilities using the World Wide Web, as recognized by Wolff in column 1, lines 14-52. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine the teachings of Wolff with the system of Geshwind to obtain the invention as specified in claims 2, 9, 14, and 19.

***Conclusion***

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joe Pokrzywa whose telephone number is (571) 272-7410. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 9:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward L. Coles can be reached on (571) 272-7402. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Joseph R. Pokrzywa  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2625



jrp